(g) and (h) Achievement in the field of protection of human rights is highlighted at all possible national and international fora to counter the propaganda using allegations of human rights violations.

Elections in J & K

2766. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 728 given in the Rajya Sabha on 16th March, 1995 and state:

(a) whether some poll processes have begun in the State of Jammu and Kashmir;

(b) if so, the details thereof with tentative schedule drawn for the same;

(c) whether Government have asked the militants to participate in the ensuing free and fair elections to hand over Government to them in case they win the elections;

(d) whether such steps will enable the "ultras" to test their popularity through the ballot rather than bullets; and

(e) if so, the details of the steps proposed to be taken to soften the minds of militants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) to (e) The Government is keen to restore democratic institutions in the State of Jammu & Kashmir through the process of free and fair elections at the earliest. It has been consistently urged upon various groups in the State to come forward and join such a process so that peace and normalcy could be restored in the State and that people could have the benefit of representative institutions for the redressal of their problems and difficulties and democratic governance in the State.

It is not possible at this stage to indicate any specific schedule for elections in the State.

A number of steps have been taken to create an environment conducive to normalisation and the electoral process. These include sustained and targetted operations against militants to contain their activities and reduce the fear of the gun; efforts to step up the pace of development and economic activities in the State; action for reactivation of the civil administration and restoring its morale; efforts to restore the confidence of the people in the administration by seeking their cooperation; efforts to reactivate political activities in the State and to motivate people to come into the mainstream, including steps such as the release of detenues, etc. These efforts are being closely followed up, and the Government intends to pursue these intensively.

New Training Camps for Kashmiri Militants set up by Pakistan

2767. SHRI SURINDER KUMAR SINGLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Pak training camps shifted" as reported in the Statesman dated the 5th January, 1995;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan has set up new training camps and has started giving training to the Kashmiri militants;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision to strengthen its borders and to curb infiltration; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) to (d) Government have seen the news-item. There are reports of Pakistan establishing and running various camps including peripatetic ones in its territory and also close to the border, to provide indoctrination, training in handling sophisticated arms and equipment, and for launching of misguided Kashmiri youth and other fundamentalist elements into the State. Constant vigil is kept on the LOC/Border. Security arrangements in the vulnerable areas have been

streamlined and augmented, and anti-terrorist operations are being pursued in a vigorous and sustained manner.

टाडा के अन्तर्गत नजरबन्द कश्मीरी

2768. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह:** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) भारतीय जेलों में टाडा के अन्तर्गत कितने कश्मीरी नजरबन्द हैं; और

(ख) उनमें से कितनों के खिलाफ अभियोग साबित हो चुके हैं और कितनों के खिलाफ अभियोग साबित होना बाकी है?

प्रधान मंत्री कार्यालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री भुवनेश चतुर्वेदी): (क) और (ख) राज्य सरकार से मिली सूचना के अनुसार, दिनांक 15.3.95 की स्थिति के मुताबिक 132 कश्मीरी नजर बंदों को राज्य के बाहर की जेलों में रखा गया है। इन सभी को टाडा के अधीन गिरफ्तार किया गया था तथा जन सुरक्षा अधिनियम के तहत इन्हें रखा गया था। इनके मामलों की जाँच-पड़ताल की जा रही है। उपर्युक्त के अलावा, 15.3.95 की स्थिति के अनुसार, जम्मू और कश्मीर राज्य की विभिन्न जेलों में इस समय 1127 नजरबन्दों को रखा गया है।

Policy on Kashmir

2769. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review their policy on Kashmir;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any steps to ensure that the citizens are not put to any inconvenience and trouble; and

(d) whether Government propose to set up a policy formulation cell?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) to (d) The aim of the Government is to ensure that conditions of peace and normalcy are created, and the political and democratic process restored in the State of Jammu & Kashmir at the earliest. Towards this end the situation is being continuously and closely reviewed and monitored. A number of steps have been taken towards achieving the above objective. These include sustained and targetted operations against the militants to contain their activities and reduce the fear of the gun; efforts to step up the pace of development and economic activities in the State; action for reactivation of the civil administration and restoring its morale; efforts to restore the confidence of the people in the administration by seeking their cooperation; efforts to reactivate political elements in the State and to motivate people to come into the mainstream, including steps such as the release of detenues, etc.

Instructions have also been issued that the utmost restraint be exercised in security operations despite the gravest provocations so that the scope for harassment or harm to civilians could be minimised. The Government intends to pursue all these efforts intensively.

Plans of J & K Administration

2770. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jammu and Kashmir administration has any plan for private sector participation in various core areas in which power and agriculture would receive the highest priority; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) and (b) As per information given by the Government of J & K, the subject of participation of the private sector in core areas is under consideration.